

Preliminary Amendment

Applicant: Petrica D. Balcan et al.

Serial No.: Unknown (Parent Serial No.: 10/229,711)

Filed: Herewith (Parent Filing Date: August 28, 2002)

Docket No.: 100111448-5

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SERVICING NON-SCANNING PRINthead

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-33 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 34-64 as follows:

34. (New) A system for servicing a non-scanning printhead, the system comprising:
a servicing plate;
a servicing component mounted on the servicing plate and adapted to service the non-scanning printhead;
a first actuator adapted to move the non-scanning printhead and the servicing plate in a first direction; and
a second actuator adapted to move the servicing plate between a storage position and a service position in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction,
wherein the servicing component is spaced from the non-scanning printhead when the servicing plate is in the storage position and the servicing component is adapted to service the non-scanning printhead when the servicing plate is in the service position.
35. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to a face of the non-scanning printhead.
36. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the second direction is substantially parallel to a face of the non-scanning printhead.
37. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the first actuator is adapted to move the non-scanning printhead and the servicing plate in a combined direction including the first direction and the second direction.
38. (New) The system of claim 34, further comprising:
a drive feature; and
a drive element adapted to interact with the drive feature to move the servicing plate between the storage position and the service position relative to the non-scanning printhead.

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39. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the service position includes a first service position and a second service position, wherein the second actuator is adapted to move the servicing plate between the first service position and the second service position.

40. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the servicing component includes a wiper adapted to wipe the non-scanning printhead.

41. (New) The system of claim 34, wherein the servicing component includes a cap adapted to cap the non-scanning printhead.

42. (New) A system for servicing a non-scanning printhead, the system comprising:
a servicing plate;

means mounted on the servicing plate for servicing the non-scanning printhead;

means for moving the non-scanning printhead and the servicing plate in a first direction; and

means for moving the servicing plate in a second direction between a storage position and a service position, wherein the second direction is substantially perpendicular to the first direction.

43. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

44. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the second direction is substantially parallel to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

45. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein means for moving the non-scanning printhead and the servicing plate in the first direction includes means for moving the non-scanning printhead and the servicing plate in a combined direction including the first direction and the second direction.

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46. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein means for moving the servicing plate in the second direction includes means for spacing the means for servicing the non-scanning printhead from the non-scanning printhead when the servicing plate is in the storage position and positioning the means for servicing the non-scanning printhead to service the non-scanning printhead when the servicing plate is in the service position.

47. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein means for moving the servicing plate in the second direction includes means for guiding the servicing plate between the storage position and the service position.

48. (New) The system of claim 42, wherein the service position includes a first service position and a second service position, wherein means for moving the servicing plate in the second direction includes means for moving the servicing plate between the first service position and the second service position.

49. (New) The system of claim 48, wherein means for servicing the non-scanning printhead includes a wiper for scraping the non-scanning printhead and a cap for sealing the non-scanning printhead

50. (New) The system of claim 49, wherein means for moving the servicing plate in the second direction includes means for servicing the non-scanning printhead with the wiper when the servicing plate is in the first service position and servicing the non-scanning printhead with the cap when the servicing plate is in the second service position.

51. (New) A printing system, comprising:
a printhead mounting plate;
a non-scanning printhead supported by the printhead mounting plate;
a servicing plate movably connected to the printhead mounting plate;
a servicing component mounted on the servicing plate and adapted to service the non-scanning printhead;
a first actuator adapted to move the printhead mounting plate in a first direction; and

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a second actuator adapted to move the servicing plate between a storage position and a service position in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction relative to the printhead mounting plate,

wherein the servicing plate is recessed within the printhead mounting plate when the servicing plate is in the storage position, and wherein the servicing plate is spaced from the printhead mounting plate when the servicing plate is in the service position.

52. (New) The printing system of claim 51, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

53. (New) The printing system of claim 51, wherein the second direction is substantially parallel to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

54. (New) The printing system of claim 51, wherein the first actuator is adapted to move the printhead mounting plate in a combined direction including the first direction and the second direction.

55. (New) The printing system of claim 51, further comprising:

a drive feature; and

a drive element adapted to interact with the drive feature to move the servicing plate between the storage position and the service position.

56. (New) The printing system of claim 51, wherein the servicing plate and the servicing component form a service station, the non-scanning printhead includes a plurality of non-scanning printheads each supported by the printhead mounting plate, and the service station includes a plurality of service stations each adapted to service one of the plurality of non-scanning printheads.

57. (New) The printing system of claim 56, wherein the second actuator is adapted to move each of the plurality of service stations between the storage position and the service position.

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58. (New) The printing system of claim 56, wherein the plurality of non-scanning printheads are offset from each other and the plurality of service stations are correspondingly offset from each other.

59. (New) A method of servicing a non-scanning printhead, the method comprising:
supporting the non-scanning printhead with a printhead mounting plate;
movably connecting a servicing plate with the printhead mounting plate;
mounting a first servicing component on the servicing plate;
moving the printhead mounting plate in a first direction; and
moving the servicing plate in a second direction substantially perpendicular to the first direction, including moving the servicing plate between a storage position recessed within the printhead mounting plate and a first service position spaced from the printhead mounting plate, and servicing the non-scanning printhead with the first servicing component when the servicing plate is in the first service position.

60. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the first direction is substantially perpendicular to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

61. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein the second direction is substantially parallel to a face of the non-scanning printhead.

62. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein moving the printhead mounting plate includes moving the printhead mounting plate in a combined direction including the first direction and the second direction.

63. (New) The method of claim 59, further comprising:
mounting a second servicing component on the servicing plate; and
moving the servicing plate between the first service position and a second service position, including servicing the non-scanning printhead with the second servicing component when the servicing plate is in the second service position.

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64. (New) The method of claim 59, wherein supporting the non-scanning printhead includes supporting the non-scanning printhead relative to a platen, and wherein moving the printhead mounting plate includes moving the printhead mounting plate relative to the platen and spacing the printhead mounting plate from the platen.